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# Information Item

## *Educational Policy and Programs Committee*

### Status Report on Proposed Revised Guidelines for Review of Proposed New Campuses and Educational Centers

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This report outlines staff efforts to update the Commission's, *Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers*. The report includes an historical overview of the Commission's responsibility for the review of new public postsecondary educational institutions and a brief summary of the conditions that prompt the need to revise the guidelines.

California requires new public institutions of higher education to be reviewed by the Postsecondary Education Commission prior to their establishment. The Commission first adopted policies relating to the review of proposed campuses and educational centers in 1975 and revised those policies in 1978, 1982, and 1992. The most recent revision is contained in the Commission's publication, *Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers* (CPEC, 92-18).

While the current guidelines have worked well, changes in the higher education planning environment present an opportunity to enhance the efficacy of this document. Burgeoning student enrollments, changes in the economy, new technologies, and the emergence of collaborative ventures are providing a new landscape and changing the context within which planning takes place.

Staff will outline some of the recommended changes to the Commission's review criteria and provide a timetable for adopting and publishing revised guidelines.

*Presenter:* Gil Velazquez.



# Status Report on Proposed Revised Guidelines for Review of Proposed New Campuses and Education Centers

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**T**HIS AGENDA ITEM reports on efforts by Commission staff to update the Commission's, *Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers*. This report provides an historical overview of the Commission's responsibility for the review of new public postsecondary educational institutions and identifies the conditions that prompt the need to revise the guidelines. In this item, staff will outline some of the recommended changes and provide a timetable for publishing revised guidelines.

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## **Overview of the Commission's review process**

The State of California requires new public institutions of higher education to be reviewed by the California Postsecondary Education Commission prior to their establishment. The review helps ensure that new university and college campuses and off-campus centers develop in accordance with statewide needs and priorities. In as much as the Commission's approval of a new institution creates an eligibility to compete for State capital outlay funding, the review process also serves to ensure that State resources used to build new institutions will be wisely spent.

The Commission's role in overseeing the orderly growth of California's public higher education can be traced to the inception of the State's Master Plan for Higher Education. Subsequent legislation assigned to the Commission, and to its predecessor, the Coordinating Council for Higher Education, responsibility for advising the Governor and the Legislature about the need for new college and university campuses and off-campus centers.

While the Governor and the Legislature maintain the ultimate authority to fund new institutions, they have relied on the Commission's analysis and recommendations in making such decisions. The Commission's function as the statewide planning and coordinating agency for higher education makes it uniquely qualified to provide independent analysis of the costs and benefits of proposed projects and it has played an important role in ensuring that new campuses develop as viable, high quality institutions.

Proposals submitted for review by the Commission also involve review by system executive offices and State control agencies. Each review helps ensure that a new institution will meet specific needs, offer high

quality educational services, and have enrollments sufficient to sustain long-term financial viability. The Commission's review begins only after a proposal has been endorsed by the systemwide governing body or its executive.

Proposals for new institutions also require review by the California Department of Finance. As the State's designated demographic agency, the Demographic Research Unit (DRU) of the Department of Finance has the statutory responsibility for the preparation of systemwide enrollment projections. Accordingly, the DRU must approve enrollment projections provided in proposals for new institutions. Proposals involving State capital outlay or operating funds require separate and independent review by the Department of Finance through the Budget Change Proposal process. Requests for funding related to planning, developing, or constructing new campuses or educational centers may not be supported by the Department of Finance prior to review by the Commission.

The Commission's review process has traditionally been organized in three phases:

1. The initial step is the formulation of a long-range plan by each of the three public systems.
2. Phase two occurs when a system notifies the Commission of a specific need for and intention to expand educational services in a given area. This "Letter of Intent" stage permits the Commission to recommend against a proposal or provide advice before the system engages in significant planning and development activities and signals the point at which systems may be eligible to compete for funding to assist in programmatic planning efforts.
3. The final stage involves a Needs Study, in which the system submits to the Commission a formal proposal that provides findings from a comprehensive needs analysis for the project.

At the conclusion of the review process, the Commission forwards its recommendations to the governor, the Legislature, and the system executive office.

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*Projects subject  
to Commission  
review*

The following actions are subject to review by the Commission:

- ◆ The establishment of a new university or community college campus.
- ◆ The conversion of an educational center to a university or community college campus.
- ◆ The establishment of a new university or community college educational center.
- ◆ The conversion of an off-campus operation to an educational center.

- ◆ The establishment of a collaborative institution.

The Commission may review and comment on other projects consistent with its overall State planning and coordination role pertaining to post-secondary education.

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*Commission responsibilities and authority regarding new campuses and centers*

The Commission's authority to review proposals for new public higher education institutions comes from State law. Section 66903(e) of the California Education Code states that the California Postsecondary Education Commission shall "advise the Legislature and the Governor regarding the need for, and location of, new institutions and campuses of public higher education." Section 66904 of the Education Code expresses the intent of the Legislature that the sites for new institutions or branches of public postsecondary education will not be authorized or acquired unless recommended by the Commission:

It is the intent of the Legislature that sites for new institutions or branches of the University of California and the California State University, and the classes of off-campus centers as the Commission shall determine, shall not be authorized or acquired unless recommended by the Commission.

It is further the intent of the Legislature that California Community Colleges shall not receive State funds for acquisition of sites or construction of new institutions, branches or off-campus centers unless recommended by the Commission. Acquisition or construction of non-State funded community colleges, branches and off-campus centers, and proposals for acquisition or construction shall be reported to and may be reviewed and commented upon by the Commission.

Education Code Section 89002 applies specifically to the California State University (CSU) and specifies that construction of authorized campuses shall commence only upon resolution of the CSU trustees and approval by the California Postsecondary Education Commission.

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**Brief history of the review process**

The statutes that support the Commission's Guidelines have a long and consistent history dating back to the development of the Master Plan for Higher Education in California in 1960. Section 66903(e) has remained essentially unchanged since the Donahoe Act created the Commission's predecessor agency, the Coordinating Council for Higher Education, in 1961. That legislation gave the Council specific responsibilities, including the review of new programs, the collection of data and information regarding higher education, and the regulation of physical growth.

The Coordinating Council provided broad advice on long-range planning matters, and "the need for and location of new institutions" of higher education. The Council conducted statewide planning studies, examined enrollment growth and fiscal resources, and suggested not only the number

of new campuses that might be required in future years, but also the general locations where they might be built. The Council published these statewide planning assessments in a series of reports referred to as "additional center studies." The Coordinating Council's broad, long-range planning responsibility did not involve the review of specific proposals for new campuses or educational centers.

When the California Postsecondary Education Commission was established in 1974, the Legislature specified a stronger role for the Commission with regard to its mandate to provide advice about the need for and location of new public postsecondary institutions. Education Code Section 66904 gave the Commission greater responsibility in overseeing the growth of California's public higher education enterprise and more direct authority to review specific proposals for the establishment of new institutions.

The Commission's quasi-regulatory responsibilities have been formalized in a set of guidelines that provide campus planners and executives with a framework for planning new institutions and an outline for the development of proposals requiring review. The guidelines specify the actions subject to Commission review, the criteria for reviewing proposals, the schedule to be followed by the three public systems when submitting proposals, and specify the contents required of a Needs Study. The guidelines define the criteria by which Commission staff members analyze new campus proposals, focusing particularly on the issues of enrollment demand, geographic location and access, programmatic alternatives, projected costs, and potential impacts on the surrounding community neighboring institutions.

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*Evolution of the  
guidelines*

The Commission first adopted policies relating to the review of proposed campuses and educational centers in 1975. The Commission revised those policies in 1978 and 1982. The most recent revision to those policies occurred in 1992 and is contained in the Commission's publication, *Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers* (CPEC, 92-18). A copy of this document is included in Appendix A.

The two revisions in 1990 and 1992 represented substantial amendments to what was then called the *Guidelines for Review of Proposed Campuses and Off-Campus Centers*. Through those revisions, the Commission's Guidelines sought to incorporate a statewide planning agenda into the guidelines in the hope of achieving a greater attention to statewide perspectives than had previously been in evidence. The 1990 and 1992 guidelines called for long-range plans from each of the systems, followed by a Letter of Intent that identified a system's plans to create one or more new institutions, and finally, a formal Needs Study for the proposed new institution that would contain certain prescribed data elements and satisfy specific criteria.

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*The need  
for updating*

In general, the 1992 *Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers* under which the Commission has been operating for the past eight years have worked well. However, changes in the higher education planning environment present an opportunity to enhance the efficacy of this document. Long-range planning has become more complex and fluid. Systems face notably shorter planning horizons and desire to maintain flexibility in order to respond to new opportunities or adapt to changing conditions. Burgeoning student enrollments, changes in the economy, new technologies, and the emergence of collaborative ventures are providing a new landscape and changing the context within which planning takes place.

A major shift has occurred over the past five years in how planning is accomplished. Previously, the Commission asked for planning documents from the systems with the intention of offering comments, and perhaps conclusions, on their content. These plans were designed to articulate statewide needs from a systemwide perspective. However, the plans were rarely submitted and proved to be of little value.

With the publication of *A Capacity for Growth* in 1995 (CPEC 95-9), the Commission assumed a more centralized and facilitative role in statewide planning. The capacity report provided comprehensive statewide enrollment projections through Fall 2005, along with systemwide capacity analyses, an economic analysis, a projection of General Fund revenues, and a projection of needed capital outlay funding. This report was updated with publication of *Providing for Progress, California Higher Education Enrollment Demand and Resources into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (CPEC 00-1) in February 2000, which extended the analysis of all of the previous elements into the year 2010. If the Commission continues these updates on a regular basis, with periodic adjustments as needed, the need for long-range systemwide planning should be satisfied.

In its report, *Providing for Progress*, the Commission estimated that student enrollment in California's public systems of higher education will grow by more than 714,000 students by 2010. The Commission also projects that California's independent colleges and universities will grow by between 75,000 and 130,000 new students by the next ten years. Public postsecondary systems will need to expand existing capacity to accommodate this anticipated surge of enrollment demand, and will likely do so through a combination of year-round operations, expanded schedules, shared facilities, and when appropriate, new facilities. While some of the enrollment growth can be handled by innovative facility management and technology mediated instruction, it is clear that physical growth will also be needed. The Commission has estimated that the three public systems of higher education will need more than \$821.4 million in capital outlay funds per year to provide for enrollment growth during the projection period.

This extraordinary pressure to increase capacity will no doubt result in more and different proposals submitted for review by CPEC. Already the Commission has almost three times the number of pending reviews than it has had in recent years, and many of the proposals contain innovative elements including shared facilities, collaborative programs, and the use of public-private partnerships to leverage resources. Such initiatives are consistent with the Commission's perspective and recommendations concerning enrollment demand and institutional capacity.

Several states have established collaborative centers in recent years, including but not limited to: The University Center at Chaparral, in Parker, Colorado; the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center in Virginia Beach, Virginia; the Woodlands University Center near Houston, Texas, and the Auraria Higher Education Center in downtown Denver, Colorado.

There is a need to better define CPEC's role in the development of procedures governing the establishment of intersegmental, collaborative educational centers. These centers raise a number of interesting policy issues dealing with administrative control, fiscal management, programmatic authority and decision-making. The review of the CPEC guidelines provides an opportunity to examine these issues and develop criteria in collaboration with stakeholders to ensure that these new institutions provide high quality, cost effective educational services to students who attend them.

Together, these changes provide an opportunity to revisit the guidelines to determine how they might be updated to reflect the current environment and ensure that they remain a useful tool for evaluating the need for new campuses and educational centers. Such a review also provides an opportunity for the Commission to refine and clarify procedural aspects of the review process that have evolved over time.

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**The process  
of change**

Much of the work in reviewing the Commission's *Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers* is already underway. The Commission established an advisory committee of representatives from state control agencies, the three public higher education segments, and independent colleges and universities to advise the Commission on policy issues and concerns the public systems face in the development of new campuses and educational centers, recommend procedures for the development and funding of educational centers involving intersegmental collaborations, and review and comment on draft guidelines. The Commission's Guidelines Advisory Committee has been an invaluable source of information in reviewing the Guidelines. Presently, this advisory committee is assisting the Commission in establishing criteria for the review of collaborative centers, and provide feedback on a draft set of new standards.

The following seven policy assumptions are central to the review of the Commission's *Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers*:

1. It will continue to be State policy that each resident of California who has the capacity and motivation to benefit from higher education will have the opportunity to enroll in an institution of higher education. The California Community Colleges shall continue to be accessible to all persons at least 18 years of age who can benefit from the instruction offered, regardless of district boundaries. The California State University and the University of California shall continue to be accessible to first-time freshmen among the pool of students eligible according to Master Plan eligibility guidelines. Master Plan guidelines on undergraduate admission priorities will continue to be (a) continuing undergraduates in good standing; (b) California residents who are successful transfers from California public community colleges; (c) California residents entering at the freshman or sophomore level; and (d) residents of other states or foreign countries.
2. The differentiation of institutional mission and function as defined by the State's Master Plan for Higher Education will continue for each of the State's public systems of higher education.
3. The University of California will continue to plan and develop its campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of statewide needs.
4. The California State University will continue to plan and develop its campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of statewide needs and special regional considerations.
5. The California Community Colleges will continue to plan and develop their campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of local needs.
6. Planned enrollment capacities are established for and observed by all campuses of public postsecondary education. These capacities are determined on the basis of statewide and institutional economies, community and campus environment, physical limitations on campus size, program requirements and student enrollment levels, and internal organization. Planned enrollment capacities are established by the governing boards of community college districts (and reviewed by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges), the Trustees of the California State University, and the Regents of the University of California.
7. California's independent institutions, while not directly affected by the guidelines, are considered an integral component of California's system of higher education, and as such, offers a viable alternative to educational opportunity for many Californians.



Informed by information provided by the Advisory Committee, staff shall recommend that the Commission revise its current Guidelines to better reflect California's higher education planning environment. Staff will recommend several adjustments to the 1992 version of the Guidelines including the following:

- ◆ Deleting the requirement for systemwide long-range plans and replacing it with a more specific requirement that each system, when initially considering a new campus or educational center, submit a "Preliminary Notice" of such activity. This would precede even the Letter of Intent, and would serve to advise the Commission that a new institution or facility is being contemplated. If planning continued, then the Letter of Intent and Needs Study stages would follow, with increasing levels of detail and justification required.
- ◆ Clarifying the purpose of the Commission's role in the review of new campuses and centers. Previously, the funding implications of Commission approval were unclear; now, it will be clear that Commission approval creates an eligibility to compete only for State capital outlay funds, regardless of the source of those funds (bonds, General Fund, special fund, etc.). The appropriation of operational funds will remain unchanged.
- ◆ Defining "Grandfathered Operations" as those institutions that have been in continuous operation since January 1, 1974, prior to the time CPEC reviewed proposals for new campuses and off-campus centers. Although relatively few institutions fall into this category, adding the definition will conform to a long-standing policy established by the Commission in 1981 (see CPEC Report No. 84-38, December 1984).
- ◆ Changing the terminology for off-campus centers with less than 500 Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES). In the previous iteration of the Guidelines, small off-campus centers were termed "Outreach Operations." In this edition, they are identified as "Off-campus Centers," a change in terminology designed to remove the confusion between small off-campus centers and programs designed to recruit and enroll historically underrepresented students.
- ◆ Increasing the minimum student enrollment threshold for new university or community college campuses. Educational centers in all three public systems are still defined as enrolling a minimum of 500 full-time-equivalent students (FTES), but new community colleges will now be required to enroll at least 2,000 FTES (up from 1,000 FTES previously), while new University of California and California State University campuses will require enrollment minimums of 3,000 FTES. In each case, the new college or campus will have five years to reach the minimum requirement. A center will have to reach the 500 FTES minimum within three years of opening, unless it is already operating as a non-qualifying center, as defined.

- ◆ Allowing, under special circumstances, a University of California or State University educational center to admit lower division students, provided they work with community colleges and can demonstrate compelling need.
- ◆ Including a new definition of a “Collaborative Institution” to reflect the growing trend towards cooperative arrangements among two or more higher education institutions or systems.
- ◆ Modifying requirements for the Letter of Intent section to conform to the changes noted above and reduce the requirement for budget projections from ten years to five, primarily because projections that extend beyond five years generally have little usefulness. In addition, the *Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers* will also now clarify that the Commission will not react to Letters of Intent forwarded by individual community college districts, but only those approved by the Chancellor’s Office of the California Community Colleges.
- ◆ Modifying requirements for the Needs Study to conform to the changes noted above, more specific cost-benefit information for the conversion of an off-campus centers to a full-service campus, and including a new requirement that proposals for new university or community college campuses include a timeline and evidence of a process leading to regional accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

The timelines and response times for the Commission to respond to a Letter of Intent and the Needs Study remain largely unchanged. The response time for a Letter of Intent is 60 days, while the response time for a Complete Needs Study varies depending on the proposed action and the segment. In order to allow adequate time for a thorough review, staff recommend that the time for a new community college review be extended from six months to one year. This change would make it consistent with the timeframe required for review of four-year institutions. Although the review of a new community college will generally involve fewer academic programs, regional issues involving local enrollment demand, community support, and intersegmental relationships often require greater attention.

A new format is suggested for the guidelines. The new version will be organized by transaction, i.e. the type of proposals subject to review by the Commission. This will help eliminate confusion and clarify review criteria that apply to specific types of proposals. Other changes in the *Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers* are largely technical, or introduced for the purpose of clarification, such as the addition in the enrollment projection sections that specify the use of “Fall Term” FTES. This clarifies the minimum enrollment threshold.

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<i>Proposed timeframe for review of the revised guidelines</i>	<p>As indicated previously, much of the work to update the guidelines has already been accomplished. Over the next two months, in consultation with control agencies and segmental representatives, staff will develop specific guidelines for the review of proposals involving joint-use facilities and intersegmental collaborations. These criteria will be included in the new guidelines and will help inform local planners who may be looking at developing these unique educational centers.</p> <p>The development of guidelines for collaborative institutions and a draft set of guidelines should be ready for review by the Commission at its December 2001 meeting.</p>
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## Appendix A

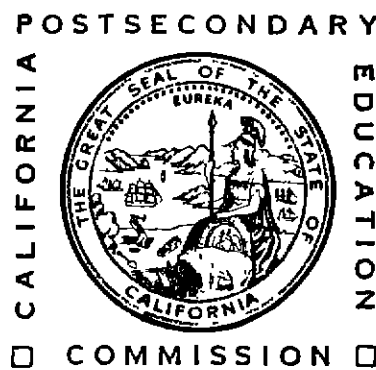
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# GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW OF PROPOSED UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES, COMMUNITY COLLEGES, AND EDUCATIONAL CENTERS

*A Revision of the Commission's 1990  
"Guidelines for Review of Proposed Campuses  
and Off-Campus Centers"*

CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION  
1303 J Street • Fifth Floor • Sacramento, California 95814-2938





**COMMISSION REPORT 92-18**  
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# Guidelines for Review of Proposed University Campuses, Community Colleges, and Educational Centers

## Introduction

### *Commission responsibilities and authority regarding new campuses and centers*

Section 66904 of the California Education Code expresses the intent of the Legislature that the sites for new institutions or branches of public postsecondary education will not be authorized or acquired unless recommended by the Commission:

It is the intent of the Legislature that sites for new institutions or branches of the University of California and the California State University, and the classes of off-campus centers as the Commission shall determine, shall not be authorized or acquired unless recommended by the Commission.

It is further the intent of the Legislature that California community colleges shall not receive State funds for acquisition of sites or construction of new institutions, branches or off-campus centers unless recommended by the Commission. Acquisition or construction of non-State-funded community colleges, branches and off-campus centers, and proposals for acquisition or construction shall be reported to and may be reviewed and commented upon by the Commission.

### *Evolution and purpose of the guidelines*

In order to carry out its given responsibilities in this area, the Commission adopted policies relating to the review of new campuses and centers in April 1975 and revised those policies in September 1978 and September 1982. Both the 1975 document and the two revisions outlined the Commission's basic assumptions under which the guidelines and procedures were developed and then specified the proposals subject to Commission review, the criteria for reviewing proposals, the schedule to be followed

by the segments when submitting proposals, and the contents of the required "needs studies"

In 1990, the Commission approved a substantive revision of what by then was called *Guidelines for Review of Proposed Campuses and Off-Campus Centers* (reproduced in Appendix A on pages 11-15). Through that revision, the Commission sought to incorporate a statewide planning agenda into the quasi-regulatory function the guidelines have always represented, and the result was a greater systemwide attention to statewide perspectives than had previously been in evidence. These new guidelines called for a statewide plan from each of the systems, then a "Letter of Intent" that identified a system's plans to create one or more new institutions, and finally, a formal needs study for the proposed new institution that would provide certain prescribed data elements and satisfy specific criteria. At each stage of this process, the Commission would be able to comment either positively or negatively, thereby ensuring that planning for a new campus or center would not proceed to a point where it could not be reversed should the evidence indicate the necessity for a reversal.

This three-stage review concept -- statewide plan, preliminary review, then final review -- appears to be fundamentally sound, but some clarifications of the 1990 document have nevertheless become essential, for several reasons

- In those *Guidelines*, the Commission stated only briefly its requirements for a statewide plan and for letters of intent. These requirements warrant greater clarification, particularly regarding the need for inter-system cooperation, to assist the systems and community college districts in the development of proposals.
- The 1990 *Guidelines* assumed that a single set of procedures could be applied to all three public systems. In practice, this assumption was overly optimistic, and this 1992 revision more specifi-

cally recognizes the major functional differences among the three systems

- The procedures for developing enrollment projections need to be altered to account for the curtailment of activities created by the severe staffing reductions at the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance, which have eliminated its ability to make special projections for community college districts and reduced its capacity to project graduate enrollments
- The unprecedented number of proposals emanating from the community colleges, as well as the staff reductions experienced by the Commission, require a streamlining of the approval process. Consequently, certain timelines have been shortened, and all have been clarified as to the duration of review at each stage of the process
- Over the years, the distinctions among several terms, such as "college," "center," and "institution," have become unclear

By 1992, experience with the 1990 procedures suggested that they needed revision in order to overcome these problems and accommodate the changed planning environment in California, particularly related to California's diminished financial resources and growing college-age population

#### **Policy assumptions used in developing these guidelines**

The following six policy assumptions are central to the development of the procedures and criteria that the Commission uses in reviewing proposals for new campuses and off-campus centers

1. It is State policy that each resident of California who has the capacity and motivation to benefit from higher education will have the opportunity to enroll in an institution of higher education. The California Community Colleges shall continue to be accessible to all persons at least 18 years of age who can benefit from the instruction offered, regardless of district boundaries. The California State University and the University of California shall continue to be accessible to first-time freshmen among the pool of students eligible according to Master Plan eligibility guidelines. Master Plan guidelines on under-

graduate admission priorities will continue to be (1) continuing undergraduates in good standing, (2) California residents who are successful transfers from California public community colleges, (3) California residents entering at the freshman or sophomore level, and (4) residents of other states or foreign countries

2. The differentiation of function among the systems with regard to institutional mission shall continue to be as defined by the State's Master Plan for Higher Education
3. The University of California plans and develops its campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of statewide need
4. The California State University plans and develops its campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of statewide needs and special regional considerations.
5. The California Community Colleges plan and develop their campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of local needs
6. Planned enrollment capacities are established for and observed by all campuses of public post-secondary education. These capacities are determined on the basis of statewide and institutional economies, community and campus environment, physical limitations on campus size, program requirements and student enrollment levels, and internal organization. Planned enrollment capacities are established by the governing boards of community college districts (and reviewed by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, the Trustees of the California State University, and the Regents of the University of California)

#### **Definitions**

For the purposes of these guidelines, the following definitions shall apply

*Outreach Operation* (all systems): An outreach operation is an enterprise, operated away from a community college or university campus, in leased or donated facilities, which offers credit courses supported by State funds, and which serves a student

population of less than 500 full-time-equivalent students (FTES) at a single location

**Educational Center** (California Community Colleges). An educational center is an off-campus enterprise owned or leased by the parent district and administered by a parent college. The center must enroll a minimum of 500 full-time-equivalent students, maintain an on-site administration (typically headed by a dean or director, but not by a president, chancellor, or superintendent), and offer programs leading to certificates or degrees to be conferred by the parent institution.

**Educational Center** (The California State University). An educational center is an off-campus enterprise owned or leased by the Trustees and administered by a parent State University campus. The center must offer courses and programs only at the upper division and graduate levels, enroll a minimum of 500 full-time-equivalent students, maintain an on-site administration (typically headed by a dean or director, but not by a president), and offer certificates or degrees to be conferred by the parent institution. Educational facilities operated in other states and the District of Columbia shall not be regarded as educational centers for the purposes of these guidelines, unless State capital outlay funding is used for construction, renovation, or equipment.

**Educational Center** (University of California). An educational center is an off-campus enterprise owned or leased by the Regents and administered by a parent University campus. The center must offer courses and programs only at the upper division and graduate levels, enroll a minimum of 500 full-time-equivalent students, maintain an on-site administration (typically headed by a dean or director, but not by a chancellor), and offer certificates or degrees to be conferred by the parent institution. Organized Research Units (ORUs) and the Northern and Southern Regional Library Facilities shall not be regarded as educational centers. Educational facilities operated in other states and the District of Columbia shall not be regarded as educational centers unless State capital outlay funding is used for construction, renovation, or equipment.

**College** (California Community Colleges). A full-service, separately accredited, degree and certifi-

cate granting institution offering a full complement of lower-division programs and services, usually at a single campus location owned by the district; colleges enroll a minimum of 1,000 full-time-equivalent students. A college will have its own administration and be headed by a president or a chancellor.

**University Campus** (University of California and The California State University). A separately accredited, degree-granting institution offering programs at the lower division, upper division, and graduate levels, usually at a single campus location owned by the Regents or the Trustees, university campuses enroll a minimum of 1,000 full-time-equivalent students. A university campus will have its own administration and be headed by a president or chancellor.

**Institution** (all three systems): As used in these guidelines, "institution" refers to an educational center, a college, or a university campus, but not to an outreach operation.

### **Projects subject to Commission review**

New institutions (educational centers, campuses, and colleges) are subject to review, while outreach operations are not. The Commission may, however, review and comment on other projects consistent with its overall State planning and coordination role.

### **Stages in the review process**

Three stages of systemwide responsibility are involved in the process by which the Commission reviews proposals for new institutions. (1) the formulation of a long-range plan by each of the three public systems; (2) the submission of a "Letter of Intent to Expand" by the systemwide governing board, and (3) the submission of a "Needs Study" by the systemwide governing board. Each of these stages is discussed below.

#### **1 The systemwide long-range plan**

Plans for new institutions should be made by the

Regents, the Trustees, and the Board of Governors only after the adoption of a systemwide plan that addresses total statewide long-range growth needs, including the capacity of existing institutions to accommodate those needs. Each governing board should submit its statewide plan to the Commission for review and comment (with copies to the Department of Finance, the Demographic Research Unit, and the Office of the Legislative Analyst) before proceeding with plans for the acquisition or construction of new institutions. Each system must update its systemwide long-range plan every five years and submit it to the Commission for review and comment.

Each systemwide long-range plan should include the following elements:

- ▶ For all three public systems, a 15-year undergraduate enrollment projection for the system, presented in terms of both headcount and full-time-equivalent students (FTES). Such projections shall include a full explanation of all assumptions underlying them, consider the annual projections developed by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance, and explain any significant departures from those projections.
- ▶ For the University of California and the California State University, a systemwide 15-year graduate enrollment projection, presented with a full explanation of all assumptions underlying the projection.
- ▶ Each of the three public systems should provide evidence within the long-range plan of cooperative planning with California's other public systems, such as documentation of official contacts, meetings, correspondence, or other efforts to integrate its own planning with the planning efforts of the other public systems and with any independent colleges and universities in the area. The physical capacities of existing independent colleges and universities should be considered. If disagreements exist among the systems regarding such matters as enrollment projections or the scope, location, construction, or conversion of new facilities, the long-range plan should clearly state the nature of those disagreements.
- ▶ For all three public systems, the physical and planned enrollment capacity of each institution within the system. Physical capacity shall be determined by analyzing existing capacity space plus funded capacity projects. Planned enrollment capacity shall be the ultimate enrollment capacity of the institution as determined by the respective governing board of the system -- Regents, Trustees, or Board of Governors.
- ▶ For all three public systems, a development plan that includes the approximate opening dates (within a range of plus or minus two years) of all new institutions -- educational centers, community colleges, and university campuses, the approximate capacity of those institutions at opening and after five and ten years of operation, the geographic area in which each institution is to be located (region of the State for the University of California, county or city for the California State University, and district for community colleges), and whether a center is proposed to be converted into a community college or university campus within the 15-year period specified.
- ▶ A projection of the capital outlay cost (excluding bond interest) of any new institutions proposed to be built within the 15-year period specified, arrayed by capacity at various stages over the fifteen-year period (e.g., opening enrollment of 2,000 FTES; 5,000 FTES five years later, etc.), together with a statement of the assumptions used to develop the cost projection.
- ▶ A projection of the ongoing capital outlay cost (excluding bond interest) of existing institutions, arrayed by the cost of new space to accommodate enrollment growth, and the cost to renovate existing buildings and infrastructure, together with a statement of the assumptions used to develop the cost projection, and with maintenance costs included only if the type of maintenance involved is normally part of a system's capital outlay budget.

## 2 The "Letter of Intent to Expand"

*New university campuses* No less than five years prior to the time it expects its first capital outlay appropriation, the Regents or the Trustees should submit to the Commission (with copies to the Department of Finance, the Demographic Research Unit, and the Office of the Legislative Analyst) a "Letter of Intent to Expand." This letter should contain the following information:

- ▶ A preliminary ten-year enrollment projection for the new university campus (from the campus's opening date), developed by the systemwide central office, which should be consistent with the statewide projections developed annually by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance. The systemwide central office may seek the advice of the Unit in developing the projection, but Unit approval is not required at this stage.
- ▶ The geographic location of the new university campus (region of the State for the University of California and county or city for the California State University)
- ▶ If the statewide plan envisions the construction or acquisition of more than one new institution, the reason for prioritizing the proposed university campus ahead of other new institutions should be specified
- ▶ A time schedule for development of the new university campus, including preliminary dates and enrollment levels at the opening, final buildout, and intermediate stages
- ▶ A tentative ten-year capital outlay budget starting on the date of the first capital outlay appropriation.
- ▶ A copy of the resolution by the governing board authorizing the new university campus
- ▶ Maps of the area in which the proposed university campus is to be located, indicating population densities, topography, and road and highway configurations

*Conversion by the University of California or the California State University of an existing educational center to a university campus* No less than three years prior to the time it expects to enroll lower division students for the first time, the Regents or the Trustees should submit to the Commission (with copies to the Department of Finance, the Demographic Research Unit, and the Office of the Legislative Analyst) a "Letter of Intent to Expand." This letter should contain the following information.

- ▶ The complete enrollment history (headcount and full-time-equivalent students) or the previous ten years history (whichever is less) of the educational center. A preliminary ten-year enrollment projection for the new university campus (from

the campus's opening date), developed by the systemwide central office, which should be consistent with the statewide projections developed annually by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance. The systemwide central office may seek the advice of the Unit in developing the projection, but Unit approval is not required at this stage

- ▶ If the statewide plan envisions the construction or acquisition of other new institution(s), the reason for prioritizing the proposed university campus ahead of other new institutions should be specified
- ▶ A time schedule for converting the educational center and for developing the new university campus, including preliminary dates and enrollment levels at the opening, final buildout, and intermediate stages
- ▶ A tentative ten-year capital outlay budget starting on the date of the first capital outlay appropriation for the new university campus
- ▶ A copy of the resolution by the governing board authorizing conversion of the educational center to a university campus.
- ▶ Maps of the area in which the proposed university campus is to be located, indicating population densities, topography, and road and highway configurations.

*New educational centers of the University of California and the California State University* No less than two years prior to the time it expects its first capital outlay appropriation, the Regents or the Trustees should submit to the Commission (with copies to the Department of Finance, the Demographic Research Unit, and the Office of the Legislative Analyst) a "Letter of Intent to Expand." This letter should contain the following information

- ▶ A preliminary five-year enrollment projection for the new educational center (from the center's opening date), developed by the systemwide central office, which should be consistent with the statewide projections developed annually by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance. The systemwide central office may seek the advice of the Unit in developing the projection, but Unit approval is not required at this stage.

- ▶ The location of the new educational center in terms as specific as possible. An area not exceeding a few square miles in size should be identified.
- ▶ If the statewide plan envisions the construction or acquisition of more than one new institution, the reasons for prioritizing the proposed educational center ahead of other new institutions should be specified.
- ▶ A time schedule for development of the new educational center, including preliminary dates and enrollment levels at the opening, final buildout, and intermediate stages.
- ▶ A tentative ten-year capital outlay budget starting on the date of the first capital outlay appropriation
- ▶ A copy of the resolution by the governing board authorizing the new educational center.
- ▶ Maps of the area in which the proposed educational center is to be located, indicating population densities, topography, and road and highway configurations.
- ▶ If the statewide plan envisions the construction or acquisition of more than one new institution within the 15-year term of the plan, the plan should prioritize the proposed new colleges in terms of three five-year intervals (near term, mid term, and long term). Priorities within each of the five-year periods of time shall be established through the Board of Governors five-year capital outlay planning process required by Supplemental Language to the 1989 Budget Act.
- ▶ A time schedule for development of the new college, including preliminary dates and enrollment levels at the opening, final buildout, and intermediate stages
- ▶ A tentative ten-year capital outlay budget starting on the date of the first capital outlay appropriation
- ▶ A copy of the resolution by the Board of Governors authorizing the new college
- ▶ Maps of the area in which the proposed new college is to be located, indicating population densities, topography, and road and highway configurations.

*New California Community Colleges* No less than 36 months prior to the time it expects its first capital outlay appropriation, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges should submit to the Commission (with copies to the Department of Finance, the Demographic Research Unit, and the Office of the Legislative Analyst) a "Letter of Intent to Expand." This letter should contain the following information

- ▶ A preliminary ten-year enrollment projection for the new college (from the college's opening date), developed by the district and/or the Chancellor's Office, which should be consistent with the statewide projections developed annually by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance. The Chancellor's Office may seek the advice of the Unit in developing the projection, but Unit approval is not required at this stage
- ▶ The location of the new college in terms as specific as possible, usually not exceeding a few square miles
- ▶ A copy of the district's most recent five-year capital construction plan

*New California Community College educational centers* No less than 18 months prior to the time it expects its first capital outlay appropriation, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges should submit to the Commission (with copies to the Department of Finance, the Demographic Research Unit, and the Office of the Legislative Analyst) a "Letter of Intent to Expand." This letter should contain the following information

- ▶ A preliminary five-year enrollment projection for the new educational center (from the center's opening date), developed by the district and/or the Chancellor's Office, which should be consistent with the statewide projections developed annually by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance. The Chancellor's Office may seek the advice of the Unit in developing the projection, but Unit approval is not required at this stage
- ▶ The location of the new educational center in terms as specific as possible, usually not exceeding a few square miles

- ▶ A copy of the district's most recent five-year capital construction plan
- ▶ If the statewide plan envisions the construction or acquisition of more than one new institution within the 15-year term of the plan, the plan should prioritize the proposed new centers in terms of three five-year intervals (near term, mid term, and long term). Priorities within each of the five-year periods of time shall be established through the Board of Governors five-year capital outlay planning process required by Supplemental Language to the 1989 Budget Act
- ▶ A time schedule for development of the new educational center, including preliminary dates and enrollment levels at the opening, final buildout, and intermediate stages.
- ▶ A tentative ten-year capital outlay budget starting on the date of the first capital outlay appropriation.
- ▶ A copy of the resolution by the Board of Governors authorizing the new educational center
- ▶ Maps of the area in which the proposed educational center is to be located, indicating population densities, topography, and road and highway configurations

### 3 *Commission response to the "Letter of Intent to Expand"*

Once the "Letter of Intent to Expand" is received, Commission staff will review the enrollment projections and other data and information that serve as the basis for the proposed new institution. If the plans appear to be reasonable, the Commission's executive director will advise the systemwide chief executive officer to move forward with site acquisition or further development plans. The Executive Director may in this process raise concerns about defects in the Letter of Intent to Expand that need to be addressed in the planning process. If the Executive Director is unable to advise the chief executive officer to move forward with the expansion plan, he or she shall so state to the chief executive officer prior to notifying the Department of Finance and the Legislature of the basis for the negative recommendation. The Executive Director shall respond to the chief executive officer, in writing, no

later than 60 days following submission of the Letter of Intent to Expand to the Commission.

### 4 *Development of the "needs study"*

Following the Executive Director's preliminary recommendation to move forward, the systemwide central offices shall proceed with the final process of identifying potential sites for the new institution. If property for the new institution is already owned by the system, alternative sites must be identified and considered in the manner required by the California Environmental Quality Act. So as to avoid redundancy in the preparation of information, all materials germane to the environmental impact report process shall be made available to the Commission at the same time that they are made available to the designated responsible agencies.

Upon approval of the environmental impact report by the lead agency, the systemwide central office shall forward the final environmental impact report for the site as well as the final needs study for the new institution to the Commission. The needs study must respond fully to each of the criteria outlined below, which collectively will constitute the basis on which the proposal for the new institution will be evaluated. The needs study shall be complete only upon receipt of the environmental impact report, the academic master plan, the special enrollment projection approved by the Demographic Research Unit, and complete responses to each of the criteria listed below.

### 5 *Commission action*

Once the Commission has received the completed needs study, the Executive Director shall certify the completeness of that Needs Study to the systemwide chief executive officer. The Commission shall take final action on any proposal for a new institution according to the following schedule:

#### *New university campus*

University of California One Year

The California State University One Year

#### *New college*

California Community Colleges Six Months

#### *New Educational Center*

University of California Six Months

The California State University Six Months



## California Community Colleges · Four Months

Once the Commission has taken action on the proposal, the Executive Director will notify the appropriate legislative committee chairs, the Department of Finance, and the Office of the Legislative Analyst

### Criteria for evaluating proposals

As stated in Sections 66903[2a] and 66903[5] of the Education Code, the Commission's responsibility is to determine "the need for and location of new institutions and campuses of public higher education." The criteria below follow that categorization:

#### *Criteria related to need*

##### 1 Enrollment projections

1.1 Enrollment projections must be sufficient to justify the establishment of the "new institution," as that term is defined above. For a proposed new educational center, enrollment projections for each of the first five years of operation (from the center's opening date), must be provided. For a proposed new college or university campus, enrollment projections for each of the first ten years of operation (from the college's or campus's opening date) must be provided. When an existing educational center is proposed to be converted to a new college or university campus, the center's previous enrollment history, or the previous ten year's history (whichever is less) must also be provided.

As the designated demographic agency for the State, the Demographic Research Unit has the statutory responsibility for preparing systemwide and district enrollment. For a proposed new institution, the Unit will approve all projections of undergraduate enrollment developed by a systemwide central office of one of the public systems or by the community college district proposing the new institution. The Unit shall provide the systems with advice and instructions on the preparation of enrollment projections. Community College projections shall be developed pursuant to the Unit's instructions, included as Appendix B of these guidelines on pages 17-34.

Undergraduate enrollment projections for new institutions of the University of California and the

California State University shall be presented in terms of headcount and full-time-equivalent students (FTES). Lower-division enrollment projections for new institutions of the California Community Colleges shall be presented in terms of headcount students, Weekly Student Contact Hours (WSCH), and WSCH per headcount student.

Graduate and professional student enrollment projections shall be prepared by the systemwide central office proposing the new institution. In preparing these projections, the specific methodology and/or rationale generating the projections, an analysis of supply and demand for graduate education, and the need for new graduate and professional degrees, must be provided.

1.2 For a new University of California campus, statewide enrollment projected for the University should exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing University campuses and educational centers as defined in the systemwide long-range plan developed by the Regents pursuant to Item 1 of these guidelines. If the statewide enrollment projection does not exceed the planned enrollment capacity for the University system, compelling statewide needs for the establishment of the new university campus must be demonstrated. In order for compelling statewide needs to be established, the University must demonstrate why these needs deserve priority attention over competing systemwide needs for both support and capital outlay funding.

1.3 For a new University of California educational center, statewide enrollment projected for the University should exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing University campuses and educational centers as defined in the systemwide long-range plan developed by the Regents pursuant to Item 1 of these guidelines. If the statewide enrollment projection does not exceed the planned enrollment capacity for the University system, compelling statewide needs for the establishment of the new educational center must be demonstrated. In order for compelling statewide needs to be established, the University must demonstrate why these needs deserve priority attention over competing needs in other sectors of the University for both support and capital outlay funding.

1.4 For a new California State University campus, statewide enrollment projected for the State

University system should exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing State University campuses and educational centers as defined in the systemwide long-range plan developed by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Item 1 of these guidelines. If the statewide enrollment projection does not exceed the planned enrollment capacity for the system, compelling regional needs must be demonstrated. In order for compelling regional needs to be demonstrated, the system must specify why these regional needs deserve priority attention over competing needs in other sectors of the State University system for both support and capital outlay funding.

1.5 For a new California State University educational center, statewide enrollment projected for the State University system should exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing State University campuses and educational centers as defined in the systemwide long-range plan developed by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Item 1 of these guidelines. If the statewide enrollment projection does not exceed the planned enrollment capacity for the State University system, compelling statewide or regional needs for the establishment of the new educational center must be demonstrated. In order for compelling statewide or regional needs to be established, the State University must demonstrate why these needs deserve priority attention over competing needs in other sectors of the University for both support and capital outlay funding.

1.6 For a new community college or educational center, enrollment projected for the district proposing the college or educational center should exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing district colleges and educational centers. If the district enrollment projection does not exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing district colleges or educational centers, compelling regional or local needs must be demonstrated. The district shall demonstrate local needs by satisfying the requirements of the criteria specified in these guidelines. Regional and statewide needs shall be demonstrated by the Board of Governors through the long-range planning process.

## 2 Programmatic alternatives

2.1 Proposals for new institutions should address at least the following alternatives: (1) the possibil-

ity of establishing an educational center instead of a university campus or community college, (2) the expansion of existing institutions; (3) the increased utilization of existing institutions, particularly in the afternoons and evenings, and during the summer months, (4) the shared use of existing or new facilities and programs with other postsecondary education institutions, in the same or other public systems or independent institutions, (5) the use of nontraditional modes of instructional delivery, such as "colleges without walls" and distance learning through interactive television and computerized instruction, and (6) private fund raising or donations of land or facilities for the proposed new institution.

## 3 Serving the disadvantaged

3.1 The new institution must facilitate access for disadvantaged and historically underrepresented groups.

## 4 Academic planning and program justification

4.1 The programs projected for the new institution must be described and justified. An academic master plan, including a general sequence of program and degree level plans, and an institutional plan to implement such State goals as access, quality; intersegmental cooperation, and diversification of students, faculty, administration, and staff for the new institution, must be provided.

## 5 Consideration of needed funding

5.1 A cost analysis of both capital outlay estimates and projected support costs for the new institution, and possible options for alternative funding sources, must be provided.

## Criteria related to location

## 6 Consideration of alternative sites

6.1 A cost-benefit analysis of alternatives, including a consideration of alternative sites for the new institution, must be articulated and documented. This criterion may be satisfied by the Environmental Impact Report, provided it contains a comprehensive analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of alternative sites.

## *7. Geographic and physical accessibility*

7.1 The physical, social, and demographic characteristics of the location and surrounding service areas for the new institution must be included

7.2 There must be a plan for student, faculty, and staff transportation to the proposed location. Plans for student and faculty housing, including projections of needed on-campus residential facilities, should be included if appropriate. For locations that do not plan to maintain student on-campus residences, reasonable commuting time for students -- defined generally as not exceeding a 30-45 minute automobile drive (including time to locate parking) for a majority of the residents of the service area -- must be demonstrated

## *8. Environmental and social impact*

8.1 The proposal must include a copy of the final environmental impact report. To expedite the review process, the Commission should be provided all information related to the environmental impact report process as it becomes available to responsible agencies and the public

## *9. Effects on other institutions*

9.1 Other systems, institutions, and the community in which the new institution is to be located should be consulted during the planning process, especially at the time that alternatives to expansion are explored. Strong local, regional, and/or statewide interest in the proposed facility must be demonstrated by letters of support from responsible agencies, groups, and individuals

9.2 The establishment of a new University of California or California State University campus or educational center must take into consideration the impact of a new facility on existing and projected enrollments in the neighboring institutions of its own and of other systems

9.3 The establishment of a new community college must not reduce existing and projected enrollments in adjacent community colleges -- either within the district proposing the new college or in adjacent districts -- to a level that will damage their economy of operation, or create excess enrollment capacity at these institutions, or lead to an unnecessary duplication of programs

## *Other considerations*

### *10. Economic efficiency*

10.1 Since it is in the best interests of the State to encourage maximum economy of operation, priority shall be given to proposals for new institutions where the State of California is relieved of all or part of the financial burden. When such proposals include gifts of land, construction costs, or equipment, a higher priority shall be granted to such projects than to projects where all costs are born by the State, assuming all other criteria listed above are satisfied.

10.2 A higher priority shall be given to projects involving intersegmental cooperation, provided the systems or institutions involved can demonstrate a financial savings or programmatic advantage to the State as a result of the cooperative effort.

# Guidelines for Review of Proposed Campuses and Off-Campus Centers (1990 Edition)

## Introduction

### *Commission responsibilities and authority regarding new campuses and centers*

California *Education Code* Section 66904 expresses the intent of the Legislature that the sites for new institutions or branches of public postsecondary education will not be authorized or acquired unless recommended by the Commission.

It is the intent of the Legislature that sites for new institutions or branches of the University of California and the California State University, and the classes of off-campus centers as the commission shall determine, shall not be authorized or acquired unless recommended by the commission

It is further the of the Legislature that California community colleges shall not receive state funds for acquisition of sites or construction of new institutions, branches or off-campus centers unless recommended by the commission. Acquisition or construction of non-state-funded community colleges, branches and off-campus centers, and proposals for acquisition or construction shall be reported to and may be reviewed and commented upon by the Commission

### *Evolution and purpose of the guidelines*

In order to carry out its given responsibilities in this area, the Commission in April 1975 adopted policies relating to the review of new campuses and centers and revised those policies in September 1978 and September 1982. Both the 1975 document and the two revisions outlined the Commission's basic assumptions under which the guidelines and procedures were developed and then specified the proposals subject to Commission review, the criteria for reviewing proposals, the schedule to be followed by the segments when submitting proposals, and the contents of the required "needs studies."

## *Reasons for the current revisions*

By 1988, experience with the existing procedures suggested that they needed revision in order to accommodate the changed planning environment in California, particularly related to California's Environmental Quality Act and the environmental impact report (EIR) process, as well as to accommodate various provisions of the recently renewed Master Plan for Higher Education. In addition, California's postsecondary enrollment demand continues to increase, and as the public segments move forward with their long-range facilities plans, the time is particularly ripe for revising the existing guidelines. This revision is intended to (1) ensure that the public segments grow in an orderly and efficient manner and that they meet the State's policy objectives for postsecondary education under the Master Plan, (2) ensure proper and timely review by the State of segmental plans based on clearly stated criteria, and (3) assist the segments in determining the procedures that need to be followed to prepare and implement their expansion plans.

## **Policy assumptions used in developing these guidelines**

The following six policy assumptions are central to the development of the procedures and criteria that the Commission uses in reviewing proposals for new campuses and off-campus centers.

1. It will continue to be State policy that each resident of California who has the capacity and motivation to benefit from higher education will have the opportunity to enroll in an institution of higher education. The California Community Colleges shall continue to be accessible to all persons at least 18 years of age who can benefit from the instruction offered, regardless of district boundaries. The California State University and the University of California shall continue to be accessible to first-time freshmen among the pool

of students eligible according to Master Plan eligibility guidelines. Master Plan guidelines on undergraduate admission priorities will continue to be (1) continuing undergraduates in good standing, (2) California residents who are successful transfers from California public community colleges, (3) California residents entering at the freshman or sophomore level, and (4) residents of other states or foreign countries.

- 2 The differentiation of function between the segments with regard to institutional mission shall continue to be as defined by the State's Master Plan for Higher Education.
- 3 The University of California plans and develops its campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of statewide need.
- 4 The California State University plans and develops its campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of statewide needs and special regional considerations.
- 5 The California Community Colleges plan and develop their campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of local needs.
- 6 Planned enrollment capacities are established for and observed by all campuses of public postsecondary education. These capacities are determined on the basis of statewide and institutional economies, community and campus environment, limitations on campus size, program requirements and student enrollment levels, and internal organization. Planned capacities are established by the governing boards of community college districts (and reviewed by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges), the Trustees of the California State University, and the Regents of the University of California. These capacities, as well as the statewide procedures for setting these capacities, are subject to review and recommendation by the Commission provided in California *Education Code* Section 66903.

### **Projects subject to Commission review**

The following types of projects are subject to review: new campuses and permanent off-campus centers, major off-campus centers in leased facilities, and conversion of off-campus centers to full-service campuses. The Commission may also review and comment on other projects consistent with its overall State planning and coordination role.

### **Schedule for the review of new projects**

The following timelines are meant to allow a reasonable amount of time for Commission review of plans at appropriate stages in the process. The Commission can accelerate its review of the process if it so chooses.

Unless otherwise specified, all three public postsecondary segments should endeavor to observe these timelines when proposing construction of a major new project subject to Commission review under these guidelines.

- 1 Plans for new campuses and permanent off-campus centers should be made by the segmental governing boards following their adoption of a systemwide planning framework designed to address total statewide segmental long-range growth needs, including the capacity of existing campuses and centers to accommodate those needs, and the development of new campuses and centers. This planning framework should be submitted to the Commission for review and comment before proceeding with plans for location and construction of new campuses.
- 2 Segments are requested to defer the selection of specific sites for new campuses or permanent off-campus centers until such time as they have informed the Commission of their general plans for expansion and received a recommendation from the Commission to proceed with further expansion activity. No later than one year prior to the date the segment expects to forward a final proposal for a new campus or center to the Commission, or 18 months prior to the time when it hopes

the Commission will forward its final recommendation about the facility to the Governor and Legislature, it is requested to transmit a letter of intent to expand to the Commission. The letter of intent should include, at minimum, the following information for the new campus: (1) preliminary projections of enrollment demand by age of student and level of instruction, (2) its general location, and (3) the basis on which the segment has determined that expansion in this area at this time is a systemwide priority in contrast to other potential segmental priorities. Other information that may be available that will be required at the time of the final needs study (see below, item 1-4) may also be submitted at this time.

- 3 Once the "letter of intent" is received, Commission staff will review the enrollment projections and other data and information that serve as the basis for the proposed new campus. This review will be done in consultation with staff from the Demographic Research Unit in the State Department of Finance, which is the agency statutorily responsible for demographic research and population projections. If the plans appear to be reasonable, the Commission will recommend that the segments move forward with their site acquisition or further development plans. The Commission may in this process raise concerns with the segments about defects in the plans that need to be addressed in the planning process. If the Commission is unable to recommend approval of moving forward with the expansion plans, it shall so state to the segmental governing board prior to notifying the Department of Finance and the Legislature of its analysis and the basis for its negative recommendation. The Commission shall consider the preliminary plan no later than 60 days following its submission to the Commission.
- 4 Following the Commission's preliminary recommendation to move forward, the segments are requested to proceed with the final process of identifying potential sites for the campus or permanent off-campus center. If property appropriate for the campus or center is already owned by the segment, alternative sites to that must be identified and considered in the manner required by the California Environmental Quality Act. So as

to avoid redundancy in preparation of information, all materials that are germane to the environmental impact report process shall be made available to the Commission at the same time that it is made available to the designated responsible agencies.

- 5 Upon completion of the environmental review process and no more than six months prior to the time of expected final Commission approval of the proposed new campus, the segment shall forward the final environmental impact report for the site as well as the final needs study report for the campus or center to the Commission. The needs study report should address each of the criteria outlined below on which the proposal for the campus or center will be evaluated.
- 6 Once the Commission has received from the segment all materials necessary for evaluating the proposal, it shall certify the completeness of the application to the segment. The Commission shall take final action on proposals during the next six months. In reviewing the proposal, the Commission will seek approval of the enrollment projections by the Demographic Research Unit, unless the justification for expansion is primarily unrelated to meeting access demands. Once the Commission has taken action on the proposal, it will so notify both the Department of Finance and the Office of the Legislative Analyst.

### Criteria for evaluating proposals

#### 1 *Enrollment projections*

1.1 For new facilities that are planned to accommodate expanded enrollments, enrollment projections should be sufficient to justify the establishment of the campus or off-campus center. For the proposed new campus or center, enrollment projections for each of the first ten years of operation, and for the fifteenth and twentieth years, must be provided. When an existing off-campus center is proposed to be converted to a new campus, all previous enrollment experience must also be provided.

As the designated demographic agency for the State, the Demographic Research Unit has lead responsibility for preparing systemwide and district enrollment projections, as well as projections for specific

proposals The Demographic Research Unit will prepare enrollment projections for all Community College proposals, and either the Demographic Research Unit population projections or K-12 enrollment estimates must be used as the basis for generating enrollment projections in any needs study prepared by the University of California or the California State University For the two University segments, the Commission will request the Demographic Research Unit to review and approve demographically-driven enrollment projections prior to Commission consideration of the final proposal, unless the campus or permanent center is justified on academic, policy, or other criteria that do not relate strictly to enrollment demand.

For graduate/professional student enrollment estimates, the specific methodology and/or rationale generating the estimates, an analysis of supply of and demand for graduate education, and the need for new graduate and professional degrees, must be provided

1.2 Statewide enrollment projected for the University of California should exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing University campuses as defined in their long-range development plans If the statewide enrollment projection does not exceed the planned enrollment capacity for the system, compelling statewide needs for the establishment of the new campus must be demonstrated

1.3 Statewide enrollment projected for the California State University system should exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing State University campuses as defined by their enrollment ceilings If the statewide enrollment projection does not exceed the planned enrollment capacity for the system, compelling regional needs must be demonstrated. In order for compelling regional needs to be demonstrated, the segment must specify how these regional needs deserve priority attention over competing segmental priorities

1.4 Enrollment projected for a community college district should exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing district campuses If the district enrollment projection does not exceed the planned enrollment capacity of existing district campuses, compelling regional or local needs must be demonstrated. In order for compelling regional needs to be

demonstrated, the segment must specify how these regional needs deserve priority attention over others in the State.

1.5 Enrollments projected for community college campuses must be within a reasonable commuting time of the campus, and should exceed the minimum size for a community college district established by legislation (1,000 units of average daily attendance [ADA] two years after opening)

## 2. *Alternatives to new campuses or off-campus centers*

2.1 Proposals for a new campus or off-campus center should address alternatives to establishment of new institutions, including (1) the possibility of establishing an off-campus center instead of a campus; (2) the expansion of existing campuses, (3) the increased utilization of existing campuses, such as year-round operation, (4) the increased use of existing facilities and programs in other postsecondary education segments, and (5) the use of nontraditional modes of instructional delivery, such as telecommunication and distance learning

2.2 A cost-benefit analysis of alternatives, including alternative sites for the campus or center must be articulated and documented.

## 3. *Serving the disadvantaged*

The campus or center must facilitate access for the economically, educationally, socially, and physically disadvantaged

## 4. *Geographic and physical accessibility*

The physical, social, and demographic characteristics of the location and surrounding service areas for the new campus or center must be included There must be a plan for student, faculty, and staff transportation to the proposed location Plans for student and faculty housing, including projections of needed on-campus residential facilities, should be included as appropriate For locations which do not plan to maintain student on-campus residences, reasonable commuting time for students must be demonstrated

## 5 *Environmental and social impact*

The proposal must include a copy of the environmental impact report. To expedite the review process, the Commission should be provided all information related to the environmental impact report process as it becomes available to responsible agencies and the public

## 6 *Effects on other institutions*

6.1 Other segments, institutions, and the community in which the campus or center is to be located should be consulted during the planning process for the new facility, especially at the time that alternatives to expansion are explored. Strong local, regional, and/or statewide interest in the proposed facility must be demonstrated.

6.2 The establishment of a new University of California or California State University campus or center must take into consideration the impact of a new facility on existing and projected enrollments in the neighboring institutions of its own and of other segments

6.3 The establishment of a new community college campus must not reduce existing and projected en-

rollments in adjacent community colleges -- either within the district proposing the new campus or in adjacent districts -- to a level that will damage their economy of operation, or create excess enrollment capacity at these institutions, or lead to an unnecessary duplication of programs

## 7 *Academic planning and program justification*

The programs projected for the new campus must be described and justified. An academic master plan, including general sequence of program plans and degree level plans, and a campus plan to implement such State goals as access, quality, intersegmental cooperation, diversification of students, faculty, administration and staff for the new campus, must be provided. The proposal must include plans to provide an equitable learning environment for the recruitment, retention and success of historically underrepresented students.

## 8 *Consideration of needed funding*

A cost analysis of both capital outlay estimates and projected support costs for the new campus or permanent off-campus center, and possible options of alternative funding sources, must be provided





## **GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICTS**

### **PROJECTION OF ENROLLMENT AND ANNUAL AVERAGE WEEKLY STUDENT CONTACT HOURS FOR NEW COLLEGES AND EDUCATIONAL CENTERS**

Under California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) guidelines community college districts must provide enrollment projections for new colleges and educational centers. If state funding is required for a new institution the enrollment projections must be approved by the Demographic Research Unit (DRU), Department of Finance (DOF)

Districts may submit enrollment projections between September and January. Review will take place between October and February with a minimum of four weeks for review. If more enrollment projections are submitted than can be reviewed by DRU staff in the time available, projections will be prioritized by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, Facilities Planning Unit for DRU review.

DRU staff are available on a limited basis to meet with districts during the development of a projection on issues such as data, projection methodology, and assumptions to assure conformity with the guidelines.

A projection for a new institution must include the following data with all assumptions articulated and supported by documentation before DOF will approve the projection.

Demographic Research Unit  
Department of Finance  
915 L Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-3701  
(916) 322-4651

## DATA

1. Site description
2. Opening date and description of the proposed curriculum as it is expected to develop over the projection period

This section must also address associated changes that can be expected in the ratios of full-time to part-time students, credit to noncredit students, day to evening students, and older to younger students. Also include a discussion of the impact of the proposed development on the programs currently in place in the district and on all neighboring colleges

- 3 Population projections

Population projections from the local council of governments or county planning agency for (a) the county, (b) the district, and (c) the service area of the new institution, or for the geographic areas that best approximate those boundaries (for example, ZIP codes or census tracts) must be provided.

The district must document the source of the projections, including the date of their release and the levels of detail for which they are available (geographic detail, time intervals, and age/gender detail)

State Administrative Manual Sections 1101 and 1103 require that the population forecasts used in planning not exceed Department of Finance projections on a regional basis. If the population projections used by the district exceed the Department of Finance projections, they must be made consistent.

Although not required, it is recommended that the projections be controlled upward to the most recent Department of Finance population projections at the county level, if local population forecasts are below DOF

If the local planning agencies and the local council of governments have no subcounty-level population projections, a letter from those agencies confirming that fact is required. In that case, the most recent Department of Finance county population projections may be used in combination with 1990 Census data by census tract to determine the proportion of the county population within the service area and within the district.

Population age 18 through 64 is to be used as the base for calculating participation rates and for projecting community college enrollment. It may be preferable to use greater detail by gender, ethnicity, and age (ages groups 18-24, 25-34, 35-64), if the population of the service area differs in composition from the remainder of the district's population

**4. Service area and maps**

The district must identify the primary service area of the new institution and provide a map showing the district and the service area borders in terms of the geographic boundaries used in the population projections (e.g., if the population projections are available by ZIP code, the district must define the service area in terms of ZIP codes and provide a ZIP code map of the district).

The service area must be justified by documented attendance patterns evident in the district's enrollment data and within a reasonable commute time. Population outside of the district's boundaries may be used in a projection only with the written approval of both the Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and CPEC

A map illustrating roads and commute patterns in the area expected to generate students for the new institution must also be included

**5. Enrollment data**

The district must provide unduplicated fall first-census enrollment for the most recent year consistent with its official fall first-census data reported by the Community Colleges Chancellor's Office cross-tabulated

- a) by residence of student by ZIP code, census tract, or other unit of geography consistent with the geographic divisions for which population projections are available, and
- b) by location of attendance

A format example is attached (Form 1).

Note. All students, regardless of residence are included

**6. Historical data**

The projection must provide a history of enrollment and annual average weekly student contact hours for day credit, evening credit, and noncredit categories for all current programs which will be absorbed by the new institution. Ten years of historical data are required for recognized educational centers; three years of historical data are required for outreach operations. For example, if an entire outreach operation (site 1) and one small program from a college (site 2) are to be moved to a proposed educational center, historical data (not projected data) must be provided for each site as well as for the remainder of the district. Sample worksheets are attached (Forms 2 and 3)

It is critical for approval of the projections that the enrollment and annual average WSCH used in the projection be consistent with the district's official numbers reported by the Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. An explanation of the method of calculating annual average weekly student hours (WSCH) follows.

**7 Projection**

Projections must meet the requirements of both the Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and CPEC. A recommended format is attached (Form 4).

CPEC's guidelines require the following:

For a proposed new education center, enrollment projections for each of the first five years of operation (from the center's opening date), must be provided. For a proposed new college or university campus, enrollment projections for each of the first ten years of operation (from the college's or campus's opening date) must be provided. When an existing educational center is proposed to be converted to a new college or university campus, the center's previous enrollment history, or the previous ten year's history (whichever is less) must also be provided.

**8 Copy of "Letter of Intent to Expand" with attachments**

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## Form 1

## ENROLLMENT DATA

Use Fall first-census UNDUPLICATED total enrollment by ZIP code by site (institution or outreach operation). Each site that will be moved to the new institution should be listed as well as the remainder of the district. Data for several small outreach operations in the service area may be grouped as one site if they are all similar and will be moved to the new institution. Grouped data must have a footnote listing the sites.

STUDENTS ATTENDING MORE THAN ONE INSTITUTION SHOULD BE COUNTED IN ONLY ONE INSTITUTION. If a significant number of students attend more than one institution, please note their total number, where they were counted, and which other institution they attend.

Facility

Site 1 + Site 2 + Remainder/Dist = Total District\*  
(Include students enrolled in BOTH day and evening)

## Total Enrollment

ZIP 9	_____	_____	_____
9	_____	_____	_____
9	_____	_____	_____
9	_____	_____	_____
9	_____	_____	_____
9	_____	_____	_____
9	_____	_____	_____
9	_____	_____	_____
Center Subtotal	_____	_____	_____
All other ZIPS	_____	_____	_____
Sum of ZIPS	_____	_____	_____

\* District enrollment should match district enrollment reported on the Department of Finance report, " Projection of Fall Enrollment and Annual Average WSCH." Districts with more sites will need more data columns.

## Form 2

## HISTORICAL ENROLLMENT DATA

Fall first-census UNDUPLICATED enrollment should be listed for each institution or outreach operation site that will be moved to the new institution, and for the remainder of the district. Data for several small outreach operations in the service area may be grouped consistent with Form 1.

Facility

Category  
and Years      Site 1      +      Site 2      +      Remainder/Dist.      =      Total District\*

Eve Credit

1988-89

1989-90

1990-91

Day Credit

1988-89

1989-90

1990-91

Noncredit

1988-89

1989-90

1990-91

Total

1988-89

1989-90

1990-91

- \* Columns should add to "Total District." "Total District" should match the Department of Finance report, "Projection of Fall Enrollment and Annual Average WSCH" for day credit, evening credit and noncredit categories. Districts with more sites will need more data columns.



# HISTORICAL WSCH DATA

(Please see attached instruction sheet for calculation of WSCH)

Annual average WSCH should be listed for each institution or outreach operation site that will be moved to the new institution, and for the remainder of the district. Data for several small outreach operations in the service area may be grouped consistent with Form 1.

Facility:

Category and Years	Site 1	+	Site 2	+	Remainder/Dist.	=	Total District*
-----------------------	--------	---	--------	---	-----------------	---	-----------------

## Evening Credit

1988-89

1989-90

1990-91

## Day Credit

1988-89

1989-90

1990-91

## Noncredit

1988-89

1989-90

1990-91

## Total

1988-89

1989-90

1990-91

\* Columns should add to "Total District." "Total District" should match the Department of Finance report, "Projection of Fall Enrollment and Annual Average WSCH" for day credit, evening credit and noncredit categories. Districts with more sites will need more data columns.

## COMPUTATION OF ANNUAL AVERAGE WSCH FROM STUDENT CONTACT HOURS REPORT

The "Community Colleges Student Contact Hours" for the fiscal year, P-3, is prepared by the Chancellor's Office in August each year. This report contains Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring WSCH data.

For all schools: Calculate the number of weeks in the academic year by dividing the number of term days by five

Day credit. Add total hours for day daily census procedure courses and actual hours of attendance procedure courses. Divide that total by the number of weeks in the academic year and add it to the day mean of all weekly census procedure courses (first census WSCH for each term, divided by the number of terms)

Evening credit. Repeat the same procedure for extended day.

Noncredit. Noncredit is reported under actual hours of attendance procedure courses, noncredit courses. Divide the total noncredit hours by the number of weeks in the academic year

Keep in mind that

Summer intersession courses are never included in the calculations.

Computations are done at the campus level, then summed to the district level

Computations for day credit and evening credit include work experience and independent study

Student contact hours are the sum of hours for resident and nonresident students

Demographic Research Unit  
Department of Finance  
915 L Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-3701

# EXAMPLE OF PROJECTION FOR A NEW EDUCATIONAL CENTER

Year of Fall Term	DAY CREDIT		EVENING CREDIT		NON-CREDIT		TOTAL	
	Enroll- ment	WSCH Enr.	Enroll- ment	WSCH Enr.	Enroll- ment	WSCH Enr.	Enroll- ment	WSCH Enr.
Historical								
1988								
1989								
1990								
Projected								
1991								
1992								
1993								
1994								
1995								
New educational center scheduled to open Fall 1996								
1996								
1997								
1998								
1999								
2000								

Form 4

Appendix B

## METHODOLOGY AND ASSUMPTIONS

The following is a suggested method of developing enrollment projections for new institutions. Other methods may also be acceptable provided that they are (a) adequately documented with the requested data, (b) based upon official population projections, and (c) based upon reasonable, justified assumptions. If a method other than the suggested method is chosen, the district should discuss the method with DRU staff.

1. Match the student data with the population data. If the geography of the population data is not the same as the student data geography, then the two units of geography must be assigned as whole units or proportions of units to the proposed service area and to the remainder of the district. Maps and enrollment data provided by the district must clearly illustrate and support the assignment.
2. Calculate historical participation rates using enrollment data (from Data, step 5) and population (age 18 - 64 if possible). A participation rate is enrollment divided by population multiplied by 1000. Three sets of rates are needed:
  - a) rates for the aggregated sites which will be incorporated by the new institution - divide total enrollment from those sites by the population of the proposed service area
  - b) rates for the proposed service area - divide the total of all district students who reside within the service area boundaries by the population of the service area and
  - c) rates for the remainder of the district - divide all district students minus the number of students residing in the service area (students in 2 b) by the population of the remainder of the district (district population less proposed service area population)

Generally if the new institution will provide a credit program only, only credit enrollment is used in all the calculations.

3. To derive total enrollment for the years between the current year and the first year the new institution will be open, multiply the participation rate calculated in step 2.a by the projected service area population for each year. This method assumes no significant changes in participation rate between the last year for which enrollment data are available and the opening of the new institution. This assumption may require variation based upon circumstances in the district (available space and resources, for example).
4. An assumption must be made at this point regarding the participation rate that will be reached in the service area after the new institution is open. Depending upon

how closely the new institution's curriculum resembles the course offerings available at other institutions in the district, and how closely the service area resembles the rest of the district, assume that the participation rate will reach 75% to 100% of the remainder of district participation rates. The participation rate for residents of the service area should not exceed the participation rate for the remainder of the district.

5. To project total enrollment for the new institution, calculate the difference between the participation rate for the proposed service area and the participation rate for the remainder of the district adjusted in step 4  $((2.c * x\%) - 2.b)$ . Add this figure to the participation rate for the outreach and existing institutions which will be moved to the new institution (step 2.a). The result will be the participation rate for the new institution, once it is established. Normally this new participation rate is phased in over the first three years of operation. Total enrollment is the result of multiplying the projected population by the participation rate.

Note. Some students included in the calculation of step 2.b may attend classes elsewhere in the district. Generally, it is assumed that the participation of these students at other district facilities will remain constant throughout the projection, but this assumption may be adjusted depending upon the district's overall capacity and projected growth. For example, if the district's existing institutions can absorb more service area students, it may be appropriate to assume that they will serve a greater proportion. If, however, the district's institutions are already impacted and population growth in the remainder of the district will exceed the capacity of the district's existing facilities, then it may be appropriate to assume that a smaller proportion will be served by existing facilities once the new institution is opened.

6. The proportions of students in day credit, evening credit, and noncredit categories are to be based on the history of the programs being absorbed by the new institution, in line with the program description for the new institution, and applied to the projected enrollment total. Generally the proportions will not change until the new institution opens.
7. Project the annual average WSCH to enrollment ratios for each category, day credit, evening credit, and noncredit, reflecting the developments described in the curriculum explanation. Generally ratios are held constant until the new institution opens, then gradually increased to more closely resemble the district's ratios. The ratios for a center are normally lower than they are for a fully developed college.
8. Calculate annual average WSCH for the projection period by multiplying enrollments by the ratios developed in the previous step. This process must be repeated for day credit, evening credit, and noncredit, then summed to the total.

# References

California Postsecondary Education Commission  
*The Commission's Role in the Review of Proposals  
for New Campuses and Off-Campus Centers --  
Guidelines and Procedures.* Unnumbered Commis-  
sion Report Sacramento: The Commission, 1975.

-- *Guidelines and Procedures for Review of New  
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mission's 1982 Guidelines and Procedures for Re-  
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